

No. 23.

OUR WATER-BORNE TRADE.

Under the National Policy--The Biggest Years those of the National Policy.

WORK FOR THE WORKINGMAN.

BUSIEST VESSELS BY LAKE, BY COAST, AND ON OCEAN.

CANADA'S EXPORT TRADE LARGER UNDER THE N. P.

"That the Chamber of Commerce, of the District of Montreal is of opinion that the Protective duties which have induced our capitalists to invest their capital in manufactures in order to fulfil the engagements between the Government and the manufacturers in good faith and distribute wealth among our working classes and prosperity throughout the Confederation must be maintained intact."—*Resolution passed by the French Board of Trade, February 5th, 1887.*

In a former paper it was shown that the transport business of the railways had increased very greatly under the National Policy—more than 100 per cent. since 1876. The increase in water borne goods has also been very great.

(In each table the thick lines are the old tariff years and the thinner the new tariff years.)

The following tables will show the development of the business of the country:—

TABLE NO. 1.

COASTING TRADE OF CANADA.

Tons of Freight.

Year.	Tons carried.	Tons Freight.
1876	7,735,704	
1877	8,798,547	
1878	8,285,746	
1879	9,050,012	
1880	10,530,760	
1881	11,837,566	
1882	11,998,293	
1883	11,762,075	
1884	11,606,980	
1885	11,958,317	

There has been an increase in six years of the National Policy of 44 per cent. in the coasting carrying trade. This has been participated in by all the Maritime Provinces and by the Lake ports, giving employment to sailors and laborers generally along the wharves. It indicates also the great growth of inter-provincial trade.

The ocean borne freight is divided into that coming into Canada and that going out. It is also divided into tons measurement and tons weight. For the purposes of the present investigation it will only be necessary to give the tons weight and tons measured together.

TABLE NO. 2.

OCEAN BORNE FREIGHTS.

Tons Brought into Canada.

Year.	Freight inwards.	Tons
1876	929,065	
1877	869,256	
1878	847,598	
1879	766,970	
1880	821,398	
1881	989,590	
1882	1,006,377	
1883	1,118,818	
1884	1,169,665	
1885	998,326	

OCEAN BORNE FREIGHTS.

Tons of Goods Exported.

Years.	Freights Outwards.	Tons
1876	3,235,870	
1877	3,670,208	
1878	3,640,294	
1879	3,185,609	
1880	3,384,593	
1881	4,135,810	
1882	3,944,859	
1883	3,750,890	
1884	4,118,372	
1885	7,651,842	

It will be seen that the yearly average of the National Policy years is considerably greater than that of the old tariff years. The general prosperity of the country is thus plainly indicated. The values both of goods imported and goods exported are lower during recent years. But so far as the labor of the country is concerned there has been more work for all classes of workmen interested in both our export and our import trade, during the National Policy period than under the old tariff.

TABLE NO. 3.

LAKE BORNE.

Freight (tons) carried between Canada and the United States on the lakes and rivers.

Brought into Canada.

Year.	Tons freight.
1876	1,968,547
1877	1,926,941
1878	1,160,807
1879	1,184,516
1880	1,333,575
1881	1,417,082
1882	1,014,611
1883	1,068,654
1884	1,444,839
1885	1,289,409

Freight (tons) carried between Canada and the United States on the lakes and rivers:

Carried out of Canada.

Year.	Tons freight.
1876	1,162,667
1877	1,15,951
1878	1,028,389
1879	1,971,507
1880	1,482,931
1881	1,477,975
1882	1,765,265
1883	1,328,943
1884	1,118,645
1885	1,328,744

TABLE NO. 4.

TONS OF FREIGHT CARRIED BY CANADIAN CANALS.

Year.	Tons
1876	52,014
1877	54,547
1878	57,777
1879	2,066,678
1880	2,070,861
1881	2,060,703
1882	2,040,361
1883	2,058,518
1884	2,058,207
1885	5,317,000

It will be noticed that in all cases the largest years have been years of the National Policy, showing the groundlessness of the fears expressed by opponents of the National Policy that the water borne business of the country would be injuriously affected by the new tariff.

Testing the condition of the country by every test applied to find out the prosperity or otherwise of any country, it is found that Canada has passed through the period of the greatest depression the world has known (1883-86) almost without feeling it, while during the slighter depression of 1875-79 every test applied shows that Canada suffered terribly.

During the lighter depression, when she suffered, so greatly the tariff was a tariff for revenue only. During the more recent and severer depression that scourged all the great industrial nations, Canada, behind the bulwarks of her National Policy, secure from attack, went on her way unfolding, in most departments making solid progress; in a few only, merely hesitating as one might in a race to take breath.

Would it be wise to run any risks such as would be run if a party whose record is one continued opposition to the present tariff should obtain power? If not, then vote for the true, tried and honest friends of the National Policy, not for those who pretend they are friendly. Honor those who have made the country prosperous in spite of the opposition of the enemies of the National Policy.